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LOOK FOR THESE VEGETABLES AT YOUR CORNER GROCERY

This farmer of Cathay carries to market po tsai, which is the Chinese or celery cabbage that has been introduced into the United States. The farmer in this picture uses a device to balance his load which is not so ingenious as many Chinese inventions (See Bulletin No. 3).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Havana to Us, But La Habana to Cuba

THE FUTURE Presidente de los Estados Unidos nears the end of his Latin-American tour when he visits the capital of Cuba.

The city will always be "Havana" to the United States, but "La Habana" to Cuba. The distinction is important. The capital of Cuba has her "Havana" aspects —her North Americanisms. But she remains La Habana, the Spanish queen city of the Antilles.

Electric signs boldly advertise United States electrical industries. The Biltmore, the Ritz, and the Plaza present homelike hotel names and homelike prices to visiting Americans, and certain great banks of Manhattan hang out familiar signs in Calle O'Reilly. Havana even boasts a Fifth Avenue (Avenida Quinta) and also a Central Park (Parque Central).

An O'Reilly Street, but not Pronounced That Way

Enough of Yankee Havana! Spanish La Habana wears these Americanisms like so much costume jewelry. Spanish at heart, La Habana insists on patios, builds houses in smooth, white stucco, and looks to it that every man, woman and child speaks Spanish. A tourist can count himself fortunate if his chauffeur can speak even a little English.

Unhappy, indeed, is he who asks for O'Reilly Street. A Cuban may spell it that way but he pronounces it Kall-yeh O-rail-yeh.

La Habana is decorated with elaborate, rococo, Spanish-style buildings and innumerable wrought-iron Spanish balconies. At the ground floor doorways the capital's Juliets "play the bear" with their beaux. Wooing, as practiced publicly along the narrow streets, never fails to interest Americans.

Proud of Her Climate but Always on Defense Against It

Americans eager to shed overcoats find the Cuban capital a truly tropical as well as a Spanish city. While the shade may harbor charming temperatures emphasized in tourist folders, the noonday sun assaults anyone who dares venture from his particular cool retreat. Therefore, many Cubans wait within caverns of shade at noon, heeding, to some extent, the siesta custom of the Tropics. Noonday rest encourages a night life which lasts well into the morning.

Havana has pride in her climate, but she keeps constantly on the defense against it. A law prohibits the sale of meat during the hottest part of the day, milk must be boiled, and in hotel lobbies and the older homes short partitions instead of walls divide rooms.

The advantages of the generous Tropics are equally apparent. Havana's markets display an amazing variety of delicious fruit; avocados (alligator pears), annonas or custard apples, pineapples, sapodillas, oranges, mangoes, guavas and limes—all cheap by American standards. Two dozen beautiful roses can be purchased for 10 cents. Havana's parks and gardens are lush with brilliant-flowered tropic bushes and trees. The capital is notable for the absence of flies and mosquitoes. Havana citizens generally use neither screens nor glass at their windows, employing only shutters.

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AIRPLANE VIEW OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE

The town home of the kings of England has been the object of attention during the illness of King George V. British sovereigns have used the Buckingham Palace for a London residence since 1837. In front of the building is the Queen Victoria Memorial. This was formerly the site of the mulberry gardens planted by James I to foster the British silk industry (See Bulletin No. 2).

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Buckingham Palace, Town House of the Kings of England

BUCKINGHAM PALACE has been in the thoughts of millions of people throughout the world during the illness of King George V.

This town residence of the present sovereigns of Great Britain cannot compare in age to Windsor Castle or Hampton Court, or even St. James' Palace. Nevertheless, it has a considerable history of its own, having come into royal possession in the days of George III, a decade prior to the outbreak of the American Revolution.

The history of Buckingham Palace really began with the reign of James I, son of Mary, Queen of Scots, and successor to Elizabeth. This thrifty monarch decided that England could produce her own silks as well as France, and, with that end in view, encouraged his nobles to plant mulberry trees on which to feed the silk worms. He set a royal example by planting in mulberries four of his own acres in St. James Park. Meeting with small success in silk culture, his mulberry grove was finally sold as a tea garden, but not until Lord Goring, one of the King's favorites, had built a stately mansion nearby.

Why Presentations to the "Court of St. James" Take Place at Buckingham Palace

In the days of Queen Anne both house and grounds passed into the hands of the Duke of Buckingham, who married the Queen's half-sister. It was this duke who rebuilt the mansion that bore his name, and which forms the core of the present palace. His heirs sold the property to George III to be used as a dower house for Queen Charlotte.

George's son and heir, George IV, during the fashionable period of Beau Brummel and his successors, had the palace greatly enlarged by the famous architect, Nash, but the King seldom lived there. It was Queen Victoria who took up her abode at Buckingham and really gave the palace the importance of being the distinctive town residence of the sovereign. The official seat of the court, however, is still St. James' Palace, to which foreign ministers and ambassadors are always accredited, although court receptions are seldom held there. This is why presentations to the "Court of St. James" are made at Buckingham Palace instead of St. James' Palace.

During the last century it was the fashion to consider Buckingham an extremely ugly structure. A beautiful new facade added in 1913 has changed the appearance of the palace completely and given it a dignity worthy of the Empire. The view which a passerby obtains through the great gates is of an impressive residence, suggestive of the throne room and gorgeous reception rooms within. Forty acres of perfectly kept park and gardens give a spacious setting for royal garden parties and an almost country atmosphere in the heart of London.

Changing Guard at Buckingham Palace is a Picturesque Pageant

When the King or Queen are in residence the guard is changed in front of Buckingham Palace every morning at 10:30. The picturesque ceremony of the changing of the guard always attracts a crowd of visitors because it is one of the most colorful bits of pageantry left over from ancient times.

While the palace is not open to visitors, it is possible to obtain admission to the royal mews or stables. There may be seen the gilded coaches of state used for coronations and such ceremonies as the opening of Parliament. Drawn by eight horses, these magnificent vehicles still seem to signify the divinity that "doth hedge a king."

The "Tradesman's Entrance" to Havana's Back Door

Havana's municipal housekeeping is admirable. Coasting along shore, a newcomer sees behind the sea wall twenty miles of white-walled homes housing the 560,000 residents of the city A narrow inlet at the eastern limit of this civic seascape affords a "tradesman's entrance" for the ships of all nations to Havana's convenient backdoor port. Wharves, railroads, and shipping concentrate about the shores of the spacious, landlocked harbor. Cargoes of sugar and cigars from the numerous wharves go out toward Morro Castle and the sea, passing over the very spot where the sinking of the *Maine* started the train of events which has led to the present close relationship between Cuba and the United States.

Bulletin No. 1, December 31, 1928.

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HOW HAVANA WELCOMES AN AMERICAN PRESIDENT

Shore batteries of the fortress saluted the U. S. S. *Texas* bringing President Coolidge to the Pan-American Congress held in Havana last year. The American battleship is traversing the inlet leading from the Gulf of Mexico to Havana's landlocked harbor.

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What the Chinese Have Taught Us

WHISTLES for pigeons constitute an ancient Chinese device which the United States Army plans to try out.

In fastening whistles to the tail feathers of messenger pigeons the Army hopes to frighten off hawks. Bamboo pigeon pipes have long been used in China to protect the birds.

Western civilization never ceases to learn from China. Every year brings to the United States some marvel from the treasure chest of China's ancient civilization.

This year po tsai, Chinese or celery cabbage, has invaded even the chain grocery stores of some American cities, and the big, red, Chinese persimmons decorate the vegetable stalls. Moreover, new salves and ointments have appeared on drug-store shelves as palliatives for hay fever sufferers and their essential element is ma huang, a drug used for centuries in the Far East. Ma huang or "medicinal grass" grows wild in north China, and the exports of it to the United States have sprung in a few years from nothing to 622,000 pounds in 1927.

$10,000,000 Per Year for Chinese Tung Oil

China has also helped American cotton growers determine fertile from infertile seeds, according to a recommendation of the Department of Agriculture, which approved the oriental practice of placing cotton seeds in water and planting only those which sink.

Mah jongg, the Chinese game, has come and almost gone again, but tung oil, the preservative which has protected Chinese junks for ages and makes possible the tremendous Chinese house-boat population, now comes into this country at the rate of a hundred million pounds annually. Our tung oil imports are valued at approximately $10,000,000. So important has the oil become to American industry that the Department of Commerce has arranged for a monthly cable report of prices at Hankow.

Nearly every one knows the older and more famous Chinese contributions like gunpowder and printing. Others, old and new, sometimes escape attention. Among them are India ink (really China ink), dominoes, silk, tea, playing cards, dice, encyclopedias, chess, dictionaries, movable type, porcelain, rag, wood and rice paper, stone engravings, certain lacquers, artificial pearls, gold fish, stitched books, Chinese lanterns, jade mines, Pekingese dogs, chow dogs, water-tight compartments for ships, peaches, firecrackers, peonies, and seismographs, not to mention soy sauce, and bean sprouts. In some cases the ultimate ancestry of these contributions is obscure, though Europe first learned of them from China.

Newspapers, Paper Money, Air Mail, and Banks

The writings of Shen Kua mention the magnetic needle in the 11th century A. D. long before Western civilization discovered it to be the key to navigation. The same author gives the earliest description of printing with movable type. There is also good evidence that a scholar named Ts'ai Lun first made rag paper in 105 A. D. while the first recipe for true lampblack ink appears in a document dated 540 A. D.

The *Peking Gazette*, which ceased publication in 1900, had been issued daily since about 714 A. D. and thus was one of the oldest of newspapers, although printed

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A SUBJECT OF RAS TAFFARI, KING OF ETHIOPIA (ABYSSINIA)
(See Bulletin No. 5)

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Dunedin: The Byrd Expedition's New Zealand Base

AT DUNEDIN the Byrd Expedition for the exploration of the Antarctic continent said good-bye to civilization.

Eighty men aboard two ships turned their faces toward a wilderness of snow and ice. The city bade them adieu until 1930.

The expedition had gathered at Dunedin, where all the equipment and supplies were reassembled and checked. There the men made their last purchases before the final voyage to the Antarctic ice barrier.

Commander Byrd and his men found the port a Scotch Presbyterian community. Dunedin, with 77,000 citizens, is the only city of any size south of 45 degrees, although it lies not as far south of the Equator as Paris is north of the Equator. New Zealand rates Dunedin the fourth largest city of the Dominion.

Named by Settlers for Their Home Town of Edinburgh

It was founded in 1848 by settlers from Edinburgh, who, to avoid adding to geographic confusion, gave it the Gaelic name for the Scotch capital. Scotch names predominate in the telephone directory, on the business signs, and in the designations of the streets, while the massive kirk with its towering steeple stands in place of Christchurch's Cathedral. If the traveler hears inexplicably weird noises around the corner in Dunedin, they probably come from one of the city's bagpipe bands.

The back country, a bit rugged and cooler than the rest of New Zealand, is also reminiscent of Scotland. The climate is milder, however, than that of the Caledonian hills, and the region is a great fruit country as well as a rival of Canterbury Plains, near Christchurch, in dairying and sheep production.

Dunedin has a good, well-protected harbor, although it is neither so large nor so deep as the harbors of Auckland and Wellington. From this port, in 1881, sailed the first cargo of frozen mutton, an event that marked the beginning of a business that has developed into one of the chief economic bulwarks of New Zealand. Hundreds of thousands of frozen carcasses are shipped out annually now, not only from Dunedin but from a number of other ports. The mutton carcasses from Dunedin are supplemented now by countless frozen rabbits.

Gateway to the Lake and Fiord Country

The port nestles among its encircling hills and around its curved harbor like a small-scale Wellington. They are greener, less gashed hills, however, and not so steep.

Dunedin gets its share of pleasure seekers from the warmer, more northern parts of New Zealand. It is the gate-way to the southern lake country, a popular New Zealand playground, and to the great Fiordland National Park.

Bulletin No. 4, December 31, 1928.

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in the style of a government bulletin. Some Chinese claim that their nation had the first well-developed postal system and the first air mail. In support of the latter tradition the Chinese postal flag bears the design of a flying goose, recalling that trained geese once were used to carry messages. The Chinese were also the first to use paper money. Printing of paper money in 807 led directly to the organization of the first bank at Ichow about 950.

Civil service tests for the selection of government officials began in 140 B. C. but the examinations were refined and their use extended under the Mings about the period when America was discovered. Men's colleges, and even women's colleges, date back many centuries. These facts and many others on China's civilization are obtainable because of ancient books preserved in ancient libraries. The antiquity of such libraries in Cathay is shown by the report that the imperial library contained, even as early as the 8th century, 53,951 books.

Yet much of Chinese progress belongs to a past so dim that fixing the date of the discovery of silk in 2700 B.C. and the invention of the plow in 2800 B. C., and crediting the first to Princess Si Ling-chee and the second to a man named Shennung, must be considered as mythical as the deeds of the Knights of the Round Table. Even the earliest contacts with Europe are little known. So many Chinese discoveries appeared in Europe immediately after Genghis Khan struck farthest west, that it seems probable he spread information as well as terror. For centuries trade with China was so haphazard that Chinese figured silks were known as damask for Damascus, a halfway shipping city, and Chinese ink was known—and still is known —as India ink.

Our Old Colonial Chairs Have Chinese Elements in Their Design

Later, as exchange of ideas increased, China put more indelible marks on the newer Western civilization. The fine old colonial chairs in the American wing of the Metropolitan Museum of New York are really Mr. Heppelwhite's adaptations of Chinese designs brought to London from China by English travelers in the 18th century. Designs for decoration of chinaware were also copied; for example, the famous willow-tree pattern, a copy of Nanking blue china, was introduced into England in 1780. Inspiration for the entire rococo period of furnishings in the 18th century has been traced to China, and the vogue for Chinese gardens is still with us.

With nothing more than bamboo pipes to work with, the Chinese drilled salt wells 2,000 feet deep years before occidentals attained such depths. Without scientific background the Celestial has been for ages a successful fish breeder, and he learned, no one knows how or when, to feed his soil the proper food and to rotate his crops with legumes which add nitrogen to the soil. Oriental farmers practiced bud grafting and may have been first in this art, and their ancient but practical methods of cold storage insure Peiping (Peking) a supply of fresh, big, red persimmons all winter and spring. While the American South was clogging its streams with discarded cotton seed, Cathay already pressed cottonseed oil and fed stock on cottonseed cakes.

As early as 801 A. D. a Chinese scholar had made a map of China 20 miles to the inch. Provincial and county geographies, dating back to 140 A. D. and revised every thirty years, show more details in local areas than the geographies of any nation on earth. Fuel briquettes are not new to China as they are to us, nor is the use of natural gas and petroleum for industrial processes. Our oiled paper containers just coming into use can scarcely compare with the oiled paper bags that will hold 380 pounds of tung oil without bursting.

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Ras Taffari, New King of Ethiopia

ETHIOPIA has a new king, but the same ruler.

Ras Taffari, who, as regent, has ruled Ethiopia (Abyssinia) since 1916, has been proclaimed king. He replaces Waizeru Zauditu, the Empress, in whose name he has for twelve years administered the kingdom.

What sort of a man is the King of Ethiopia?

Harry V. Harlan, plant hunter for the Department of Agriculture of the United States, interviewed him at Addis Ababa and has written his impressions in a communication to the National Geographic Society.

"While we were waiting in the reception room of the palace, the servant, who came to escort us to the ruler, opened the door a moment too soon and revealed His Highness arranging his draperies. When we entered he was seated exactly in the center of a divan, with twin cushions precisely placed at either end.

Surprised His Country Had Anything That America Wanted

"Ras Taffari is a man of slight build, with an olive skin, an alert, intelligent face, and wonderful eyes. His delicate hands, with exceedingly long, slender fingers, however, are his most remarkable physical features. They fascinated me and throughout the interview I could hardly take my eyes from them.

"The purpose of my interview was to pave the way to a request for travel passes. I explained that I was sent by my Government to collect seeds of Ethiopian plants for cultivation in America.

"Ras Taffari expressed great amazement that a country such as his could furnish things of value to the United States. I told him of the many valuable importations of plants we had made, and of our hope of using as breeding material primitive wheats and barleys that were not of great value in themselves.

"It was necessary that he understand fully the object of my trip, for his rule is absolute. If a pistol is to be imported, the matter comes before Ras Taffari; if there is unrest in Tigré Province, it is he who must quiet it; if a foreigner wishes to go to Goré, it is of the ruler that the request for passes is made.

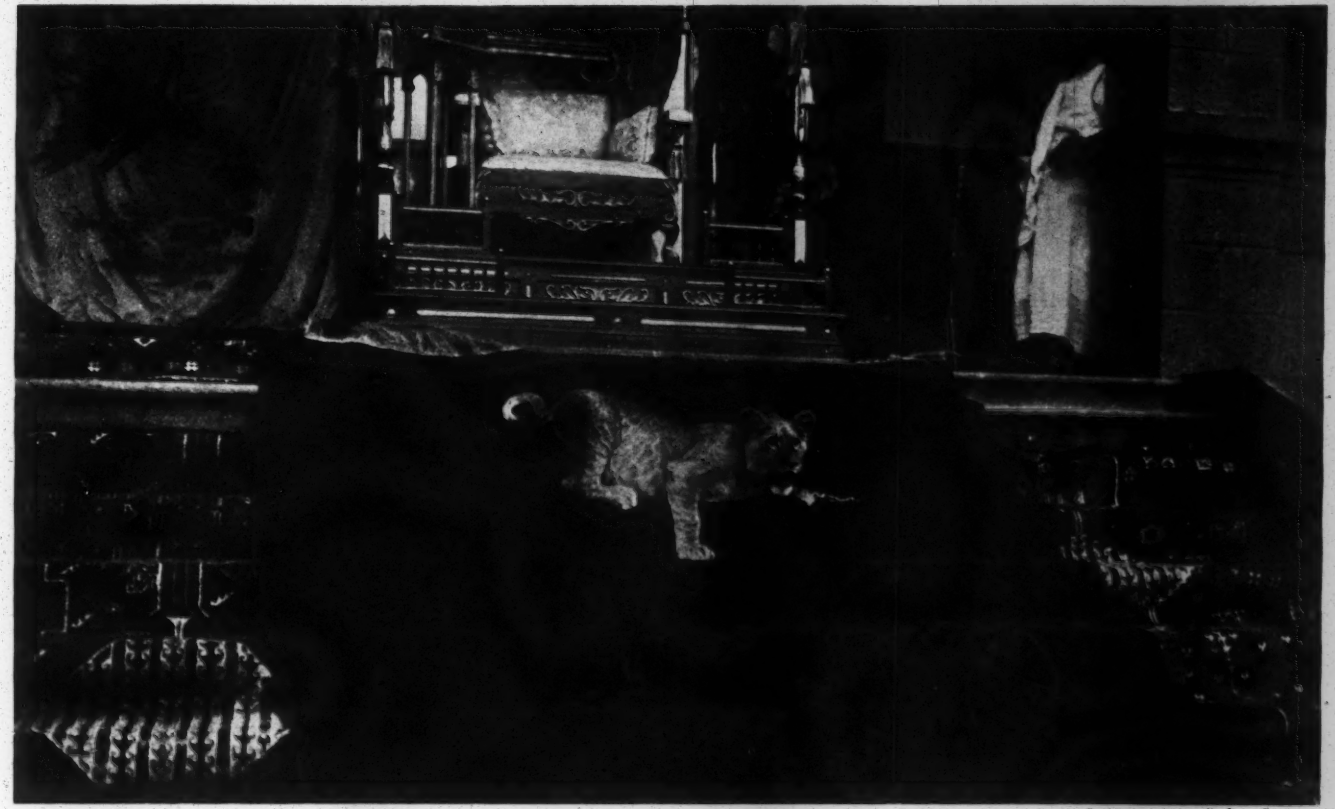
Made Presents of Lions and Zebras While on Tour of Europe

"There has been an increasing sentiment on the part of Ras Taffari and others to widen Ethiopia's contact with the outside world. At the end of the World War, Ras Nado, governor of the province of Goré, was sent to congratulate the Allies on their victory. In the course of his tour he visited the United States, and later, in Ethiopia, I heard him describe his visit to the Ford automobile plant at Detroit.

"Ras Taffari upset convention when, in October, 1922, he visited Aden, and a few hours after his arrival was viewing the city from the first airplane he had ever seen. In 1924 he did a still more astounding thing. In the early summer he made an extensive visit to Europe, thus breaking a century-old precedent.

"The most interesting event of the regent's trip took place in London, where the King of England presented to him the crown of King Theodore of Ethiopia which was captured at Magdala by the British in 1868.

"When Ras Taffari went to Europe he took with him lions and zebras, which have been the royal gifts of Ethiopian monarchs to the officials of other countries for centuries. To the British monarch and to the President of France he presented lions; zebras were given to lesser personages.



© Photograph by E. A. Salisbury from Ewing Galloway

A LION CUB PLAYING IN FRONT OF RAS TAFFARI'S THRONE

Ethiopia, like Great Britain, uses the lion as a symbol of authority. When Ras Taffari went to Europe he took with him lions and zebras as presents to the crowned heads and presidents of the countries he visited (See Bulletin No. 5).

No Electricity, No Gas, No Water, No Sewerage System

"Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia, is a straggling city. The principal streets are 'paved' with round, waterworn bowlders from 6 to 10 inches in diameter, and the two main suburban roads along the base of the hill are surfaced with a thin macadam. Wheeled traffic is uncommon, most residents going from place to place on horseback. To ride in an automobile in the city is more or less of an adventure. The streets are always filled with pedestrians, each one of whom is obsessed with the idea that he must discover how long he can keep in front of the machine by running.

"The store buildings are one or two-story adobe and stone structures covered with galvanized-iron roofing. The stocks of goods are small and inferior, although at one store, run by a Parsee, a considerable assortment of articles is for sale. Besides the stores, there are the thousands of grass-roofed huts scattered about the hills, where the native population lives.

"There is no electricity, no gas, no water or sewerage system, but there is a 'movie.'"

Bulletin No. 5, December 31, 1928.

RAS TAFFARI, KING OF ETHIOPIA, WITH HIS WIFE, WAIZERU MENEN

The King and Queen are seated on the portico of the palace. The dog is a constant companion for which both have much affection. Ras Taffari has been ruler of Ethiopia since 1916, but he only recently took the title of King.